



TRINITY COUNTY

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
P.O. Drawer 1258 (916) 623-1217
WEAVERVILLE, CALIFORNIA 96093

Dero B. Forslund, Clerk
Jeannie Nix-Temple, County Administrative Officer

October 22, 1997

Lester Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Snow:

Trinity County understands that restoration projects and programs within the Trinity River watershed were ineligible for first-round funding under your Category III program, which seeks to improve the health of the Bay-Delta ecosystem. The Trinity River is a substantial tributary of the Bay-Delta ecosystem, albeit not by nature but through engineering, and it is recognized as such by Proposition 204. The Trinity River contributes an average 1 million acre feet of water per year to Delta flows via the Central Valley Project, and has done so since 1964. The Trinity portion of the Bay-Delta ecosystem has restoration needs which it does not seem reasonable for CALFED to disclaim, since they were created and are perpetuated by the massive diversion which benefits the Delta at the expense of the Klamath-Trinity watershed.

CALFED neglect of ecological problems at this source of Delta water is imprudent: if efficient restoration measures cannot be undertaken on the Trinity because of lack of funding, we believe that area-of-origin water rights, endangered species protection, and federal Tribal Trust obligations to restore the Trinity will require that less efficient, more water-consumptive measures be implemented, reducing the amount of Trinity water available for transfer to the Delta.

We request that the area of eligibility for future rounds of Category III funding be corrected to include the Trinity River.

Sincerely,

TRINITY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Matthew Leffler, Chairman

cc: Mike Madigan, Chair, Bay-Delta Advisory Council
Roger Patterson, Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation
Trinity River Task Force Members
Representative Wally Herger
Representative Frank Riggs

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